



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/669,770	09/23/2003	Teodoro Cipresso	SVL920020058US1	4364
24852	7590	02/09/2006	EXAMINER	
INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS MACHINES CORP IP LAW 555 BAILEY AVENUE , J46/G4 SAN JOSE, CA 95141			HONEYCUTT, KRISTINA B	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2178	

DATE MAILED: 02/09/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/669,770	Applicant(s) CIPRESSO ET AL.	
	Examiner Kristina B. Honeycutt	Art Unit 2178	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 23 September 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 23 September 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9/23/03</u> | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: Application filed September 23, 2003; Information Disclosure Statement filed September 23, 2003.

This action is made **Non-Final**.

2. Claims 1-18 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 7 and 13 are independent claims.

Information Disclosure Statement

3. The information disclosure statement (IDS) was submitted on September 23, 2003. The submission is in compliance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97. Accordingly, the information disclosure statement is being considered by the examiner.

Drawings

4. The drawings filed on September 23, 2003 are accepted.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

Art Unit: 2178

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this

Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

5. Claims 1, 4, 6, 7, 10, 12, 13, 16 and 18 are rejected under 35

U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Davis et al. (U.S. Patent 5657259; date of patent August 12, 1997; filed January 21, 1994).

Regarding independent claim 1, Davis discloses an article of manufacture for use in a computer system for converting a text representation of a number into a numeric representation of the number, said article of manufacture comprising a computer-useable storage medium having a computer program embodied in said medium which causes the computer system to execute the method steps comprising:

- converting the text representation of the number into a description of the number's format (Fig. 2, 3, 6; col. 3, lines 50-53; col. 5, lines 48-50 – as demonstrated in the figures and cited text, Davis teaches converting text to a TCanonicalNumber which is linked to a formatter);
- mapping the description of the number's format to a sequence of conversion code (col. 3, lines 50-53; col. 15, lines 41-60 – as demonstrated in the cited text, Davis teaches using a

TCanonicalNumberFormatter to convert the TCanonicalNumber (description of the number's format) through the virtual method TextToCanonicalNumber. In other words, the TCanonicalNumber is mapped to the conversion code used to convert text to a number); and

- converting the text representation of the number into the numeric representation of the number by use of the sequence of conversion code (Fig. 3, 6; col. 3, lines 50-53, 65-67; col. 4, lines 1-2; col. 5, lines 48-50; col. 15, lines 54-60 – as demonstrated in the figures and cited text, Davis teaches converting text to a number using the TCanonicalNumber and TCanonicalNumberFormatter).

Regarding dependent claim 4, Davis discloses the article of manufacture of claim 1 wherein:

- the sequence of conversion code for converting the text representation of the number into the numeric representation of the number comprises an assignment statement (col. 9, lines 40-62; col. 10, lines 7-22; col. 15, lines 41-52 – as demonstrated in the cited text, Davis teaches set statements used when converting text into a number).

Regarding dependent claim 6, Davis discloses the article of manufacture of claim 1 wherein:

- if the text representation of the number does not convert into the description of the number's format, then not executing the subsequent

Art Unit: 2178

mapping and converting steps (col. 5, lines 48-55 – as demonstrated in the cited text, Davis teaches not converting text when the number is out of bounds).

Regarding claims 7, 10, 12, 13, 16 and 18, the claims reflect the method and computer system for performing the operations of claims 1, 4 and 6 and are rejected along the same rationale.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 2, 8 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Davis in view of Turpin et al. (U.S. Patent 5608898; date of patent March 4, 1997; filed November 12, 1992).

Regarding dependent claims 2, 8 and 14, Davis does not disclose the description of the number's format is a picture string. Turpin teaches a number format as a picture string (col. 10, lines 11-16). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Davis and Turpin before

Art Unit: 2178

him at the time the invention was made, to modify the description taught by Davis to include a picture string as taught by Turpin, because using a picture string as the description of the number's format, as taught by Turpin (col. 10, lines 11-16), would provide a representation of the format that text should be converted to.

7. Claims 3, 9 and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Davis in view of Omori (U.S. Pub. No. 20040086861; publication date May 6, 2004; filed October 16, 2002).

Regarding dependent claims 3, 9 and 15, Davis does not disclose the text representation of the number is converted into a description of the number's format by a translation instruction using a translate table. Omori teaches converting text data into a number using a table (p.11, para. 166). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Davis and Omori before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the conversion taught by Davis to include using a table as taught by Omori, because using a table to perform the conversion, as taught by Omori (p.11, para. 166), would provide a standard set of conversions to be used when converting text into numbers.

8. Claims 5, 11 and 17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Davis in view of Bratt et al. (U.S. Patent 4525780; date of patent June 25, 1985; filed May 31, 1984).

Regarding dependent claims 5, 11 and 17, Davis does not disclose the mapping of the description of the number's format to a sequence of conversion code comprises mapping the description of the number's format to an index which is used to transfer control to the sequence of conversion code corresponding to the description of the number's format. Bratt teaches mapping to an index and the index being used in processing (col. 66, lines 30-32; col. 449, lines 2-7). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art, having the teachings of Davis and Bratt before him at the time the invention was made, to modify the mapping taught by Davis to include an index as taught by Bratt, because mapping to an index and using the index for processing, as taught by Bratt (col. 66, lines 30-32; col. 449, lines 2-7), would provide a reference to a database or table used in the conversion process.

Conclusion

9. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Method and system for providing an XML binary format (U.S. Pub. No. 20030046317),
- Determining update availability via set intersection over a sub-optimal pathway (U.S. Patent 6789255).

Art Unit: 2178

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kristina B. Honeycutt whose telephone number is 571-272-4123. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 am - 5:00 pm Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Hong can be reached on 571-272-4124. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

KBH

KBH

Cesar Paula

**CESAR PAULA
PRIMARY EXAMINER**